

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-10, 16-17, 19-20, 23-26, 31-35, 39-41, and 71-72 are currently pending in the above-referenced application. Claims 2-3, 11-15, 18, 21-22, 27-30, 36-38, and 42-70 have been canceled. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute the subject matter of the canceled claims in one or more continuation or continuation-in-part applications. Claims 1, 25, 40, and 71 have been amended to further describe the invention. In response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated December 3, 2010, the claim status identifiers have been amended to bring the claim set in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(c).

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing remarks, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of this application over the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment of December 3, 2010 and the Non-Final Office Action dated August 25, 2010.

If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any suggestions for expediting allowance of the application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney.

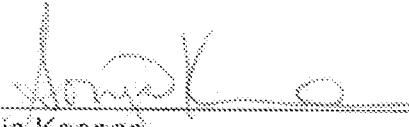
AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Pre-Appeal Brief to Deposit Account No. 50-4387, Order No. 92114.005US1.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 50-4387, Order No. 92114.005US1.

Respectfully submitted,
Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP

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By: 
Sonja Keenan
Registration No. 56,390

Address:
Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP
One World Financial Center
New York, NY 10281
(212) 504-6000 Telephone
(212) 504-6666 Facsimile